

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PARM EFIN ECIN PE
SUBJ: MORALES BERMUDEZ ON ARMS RESTRAINT AND THE FINANCIAL CRISIS

1. FOLLOWING ARE SIGNIFICANT EXCERPTS IN INFORMAL TRANSLATION
FROM A BRIEF SPEECH GIVEN MAY 26 BY THE PERUVIAN PRESIDENT
DURING THE CELEBRATION OF THE NINTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
CARTAGENA AGREEMENT AT THE ANDEAN PACT HEADQUARTERS HERE.
QUOTE A) THIS ARDUOUS TASK (DEVELOPMENT) IS MADE EVEN MORE
DIFFICULT BY THE HEAVY BURDENS IMPOSED BY AN INTERNATIONAL
SYSTEM SUBMERGED IN A BASIC INSECURITY DERIVING FROM THE
SO-CALLED BALANCE OF TERROR, WHICH, UNFORTUNATELY, SPREADS
OVER THE DEVELOPING WORLD THROUGH EXCESS SALES OF ARMAMENTS,
(SALES) WHICH CAUSE AN UNSUPPORTABLE DRAIN ON OUR SCARCE
FINANCIAL RESOURCES -- AND WHICH IN TURN PARADOXICALLY SWELL
THE RICHES OF THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, THE LATTER HAVING
FOUND THE ARMAMENTS INDUSTRY ONE OF THEIR MOST LUCRATIVE
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SOURCES OF PROFITS.

B) IT WAS THE COUNTRIES OF THE ANDEAN GROUP THAT,
WITH THE COOPERATION OF OTHER LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES,
FASHIONED IN THE DECLARATION OF AYACUCHO A LEGITIMATE
CONTRIBUTION TOWARD THE CONCERTED LIMITATION OF ARMAMENTS

EXPENDITURES, CONSTITUTING AN EXAMPLE WORTHY OF IMITATION BY OTHER REGIONAL GROUPS AND, ABOVE ALL, BY THE POWERS THAT NOW GATHER WITH THE SAME WORN-OUT IDEAS AS ALWAYS IN THE (SSOD), WHICH ITSELF ALSO WAS BORN OF THE TENACITY OF THE DEVELOPING WORLD.

C) THE SAME PURPOSE OF PEACE THAT BROUGHT PERU TO JOIN IN THE NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY AND THE TREATY OF TLATELOLCO, TO PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN INTERNATIONAL FORA ON DISARMAMENT, TO LAUNCH THE INITIATIVE OF THE DECLARATION OF AYACUCHO, AND TO PROMOTE CONVERSATIONS OF A MILITARY NATURE WITH NEIGHBORING AND FRIENDLY COUNTRIES -- (THE SAME PURPOSE) ANIMATES ME TODAY TO DECLARE THAT THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT IS PERMANENTLY DISPOSED TO CONSIDER WITH THE GREATEST INTEREST ANY NEW FORMS OF HARMONIZATION IN THE REGION WHICH WOULD REINFORCE THE CURRENT TENDENCIES TOWARD REESTABLISHING THE MUTUAL CONFIDENCE AND THE CREDIBILITY NECESSARY TO CONTROL THE FLOW OF CONVENTIONAL ARMS.

D) I WISH TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS SIGNIFICANT CEREMONY TO EXPRESS MY HOPE THAT THE RESULTS OF THE (SSOD) -- WILL BETTER THE CONDITIONS OF OUR NEGATIVE INTERNATIONAL PANORAMA, CONDITIONS WHICH INCREASINGLY AGGRAVATE THE ECONOMIC PROSTRATION OF THE COUNTRIES OF THE THIRD WORLD -- AND ARE PARTICULARLY MANIFEST IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE GROWING DEFICITS IN ITS BALANCES OF PAYMENTS.

E) WITH ASTONISHING LACK OF VISION, AND OF POLITICAL AND SOCIAL SENSITIVITY, THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, AND MOST ESPECIALLY THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS TO WHICH ALL THE NATIONS HAVE ASSIGNED THE FUNCTION OF SUPPORTING THEIR DEVELOPMENT, PERSEVERE IN THEIR INCOMPREHENSION AND, WITH THEIR MYOPIC DEDICATION TO TECHNICALITIES, PROVOKE -- RECESSION AND EXPLOSIVE SOCIAL SITUATIONS WHICH DO NO MORE THAN ACCENTUATE THE VERY EVILS THEY ARE SUPPOSED TO REMEDY -- .

F) THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMY DURING RECENT YEARS DEMONSTRATES CLEARLY THAT NATIONAL EFFORT IS INSUFFICIENT UNLESS ENCOMPASSED WITHIN NEW AND MORE JUST CONDITIONS OF UNIVERSAL APPLICATION. NEVERTHELESS, THE FRUSTRATIONS DERIVING FROM THE INHERENT DIFFICULTIES OF THE STRUGGLE -- SHOULD CONSTITUTE AN INCENTIVE NOT ONLY TO REDOUBLE EFFORTS TOWARD SOLIDARITY AMONG THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, BUT ALSO SHOULD LEAD US TO THE CONVICTION THAT WE DO NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT INTERNATIONAL

SUPPORT AND THAT IN THE END WE MUST DEPEND ON OURSELVES.
END QUOTE.

2. COMMENT: THE PRESIDENT'S BITTERNESS IN THE REMARKS
UNDOUBTEDLY DIRECTED AT THE IMF AND THE "RICH COUNTRIES"
WAS EVIDENT AND TO BE EXPECTED IN THE CURRENT CIRCUM-
STANCES. THE SUGGESTION THAT THE ARMAMENTS PROBLEM IN
THE ANDEAN REGION IS A RESULT OF THE "BALANCE OF TERROR"
BETWEEN THE SUPERPOWERS AND THE GREED OF THE
INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES IS NEW AS FAR AS WE CAN RECALL --
AND MIND-BOGGLING. BUT THE PASSAGES ON THE ARMAMENTS
QUESTION DO REFLECT THE GOP'S INCREASED SENSITIVITIES IN
THIS AREA AND ITS CONTINUING EFFORTS TO CONSTRUCT A
DEFENSE.

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